

## **Minutes of the Combined Health & Human Services Committee/Board Meeting**

**Thursday, March 11, 2004**

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisors Ken Herro (Chair), Sandy Wolff, Jim Jeskewitz, Mareth Kipp, Carl Seitz, Alicia Silva; **Absent:** Paul Pronold

**Board Members Present:** Citizen Members Dennis Farrell (Chair), Dick Wutt, JoAnn Weidmann, Dr. John Guy, and Supervisors Pat Haukohl, Duane Paulson, Duane Stamsta, Vera Stroud and Joe Griffin; **Absent:** Mike O'Brien

**Also Present:** Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Chief of Staff Allison Bussler, Health and Human Services Deputy Director Ernie Messinger, Intake and Support Division Manager Don Maurer, Clinical Services Manager Mike DeMares, Supervisor Dick Manke, Chief Judge Kathryn Foster, Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Coordinator Shelly Cyrulik, Mental Health Advisory Committee Chair, Linda Cole, Health and Human Services Supervisor Don Daniels, Foster Care Coordinator Shari Rather, Foster Parent Jeannie Szarek, Budget Analyst Andy Thelke, Wisconsin Family Ties Systems Change Coordinator Kathryn Franke, Supervisor Bill Mitchell, and County Board Supervisor candidate Andrew Kallin.

### **COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Approve Minutes of December 11, 2003 and February 12, 2004**

**MOTION:** Jeskewitz moved, seconded by Silva to approve the minutes of December 11, 2003 and February 12, 2004. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **Announcements**

Herro asked supervisors to complete and turn in the questionnaire regarding the retirement party for county board supervisors.

#### **Executive Committee Report**

Herro reported that at the last Executive Committee meeting all ordinances were approved. They are still having some trouble with the sales of county owned property. Jim Dwyer gave an update of the NACO conference he recently attended. There are plenty of materials available in the county board office if anyone is interested.

#### **Future Agenda Items**

The next two meeting agendas are full and no future items will be discussed until after the election in April.

#### **Review and Accept the 2003 Annual Report of Veterans Services Department**

John Margowski handed out a copy of the Waukesha County Department of Veterans Services 2003 Annual Report. John went over the statistics for 2003. John reported that the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) Trust Fund is having a negative cash flow problem that will affect its programs for Wisconsin veterans. One of the problems is that the Veteran's Home in Southeast Wisconsin has been quite a drain on the trust fund because they do not receive any Veterans Administration per diem payments nor Title 19 payments because they are

not Nursing Home certified yet. Another problem is that the State of Wisconsin requires that the Trust Fund reserves be deposited with the State and they are only paying less than 1% interest on that money and the Department is recalling bond issues and paying them off. Those bond issues were at a higher interest rate. The Department has also experienced defaults on its Personal Loan Program and that with the interest rate difference is creating a negative cash flow. The Trust Fund balance is currently \$101,983,000. John is on a committee of the Department of Veterans Affairs to discuss how to adjust the Department's Grant programs to adjust the Department's budget to handle this financial drain. Because of this funding challenge, the committee is recommending that veterans only be served and that dependents and survivors not be served until the Trust Fund is in better shape. The committee is also recommending changes to the health care aid grant and suggesting that there be a \$5,000 lifetime grant for Healthcare and Subsistence Aid, and that there be suggested limits of \$500 for glasses and \$2,000 for subsistence and \$2,500 for dental/dentures and that once those levels are reached they are no longer eligible for the program. The Montgomery GI bill currently pays roughly \$985 per month for education. It is not an upfront grant to pay tuition – a service member contributes \$1,500 of his or her own income when entering the service and the department of Defense contributes the rest. The veteran has to successfully complete their education in order to be entitled to the funding.

**MOTION:** Wolff moved, seconded by Silva to approve the Annual Report of Veterans Services. Motion carried 6-0.

## **BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Approve Minutes of February 19, 2004**

**MOTION:** Wutt moved, seconded by Paulson to approve the minutes of February 19, 2004. Motion carried 9-0.

### **Announcements**

Farrell announced that on March 25, 2004 there will be a Joint Advisory Committee meeting at 11:00 a.m. at Goodwill on Nike Drive in Waukesha. Chairs or designees will be asked to give a brief description of their mission statement. There will also be a farewell luncheon for Ernie Messinger, who is retiring as Deputy Director of Health and Human Services effective March 31, 2004. The lunch is provided by the Waukesha Training Center and will cost \$7.00 per person. You can pay the day of the meeting at Goodwill, but please RSVP to Kathy Leach at 548-7675 so we can give the Training Center the count for the luncheon.

### **Advisory Committee Reports**

Wutt reported that at the last Joint Conference Committee meeting, members approved the appointment of Dr. Laurence Trueman as the Chief Psychiatrist at the Mental Health Center. This will be added to the next Board agenda for approval.

Weidmann reported that at the next WAHL DAB meeting there will be a discussion regarding the Public Health Restructuring. The State is looking at ways to realign public health responsibilities and one of these methods includes shifting state responsibilities to local public health agencies. The Public Health Association along with the local committee looking at this restructuring report will put together a report to Helene Nelson by April 2<sup>nd</sup> giving their viewpoint. JoAnn reported that she spoke with the WCA to get steering committees geared up as the original restructuring report did not ask for any local input. Ernie Messinger reported that this is a very large report and there has been discussion at the County Executive level about concerns we have about what is implied and not stated. JoAnn's assessment is correct about revolving work to counties

without any mention of money to pay for it. This is an important issue that we must pay attention to.

Mareth Kipp announced that NAMI is having a walkathon on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Frame Park. They are encouraging everyone to put together teams to raise money. United Way had to cut some of their funding and this is a fundraiser for NAMI.

Dennis Farrell announced that the Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee member ACAP put specialized transportation to a test. They found out that you cannot transfer at the Milwaukee County line, but in Brookfield you have to get off one bus, cross the street and get on another bus. It took a total of 3 ½ hours total travel and wait time at a cost of \$12.00.

### **Meeting Approvals**

Wisconsin Public Health Association and WAHL DAB is having a conference on May 18 and 19.

**MOTION:** Haukohl made a motion seconded by Paulson to cover the cost of attendance by a board member or members to the conference. Motion carried 9-0.

### **Future Agenda Items**

The agendas have been planned for meetings up to and including May 13, 2004.

## **COMBINED AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Update**

Chief Judge Kathryn Foster and Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Coordinator, Shelly Cyrulik appeared before the board and committee to give an update on the CJCC. Shelly passed out copies of the March 2004 Monthly Activity Report and also a copy of the “Proposed OAR Program Design”. The monthly activity report is a summary of work that has been completed by the Council, standing committees and sub-committees from December through February. Shelly reviewed the report with board and committee members. One of the highlights of the report was the Drug and Alcohol Court Planning Initiative. Judge and Shelly attended the introductory training sessions in January along with 23 other jurisdictions throughout the country. In March a team of ten individuals is preparing to attend the skills-based training and the third and last session of the series will be held in August and that is an operations based training. The team is made up of representatives from the DA’s Office, the Public Defender’s Office, law enforcement, Probation and Parole, Clerk of Courts, treatment representative and a few others. The federal government provides the funding for this training and Waukesha County chose this track because of its inclusion of alcohol.

Shelly also reported that the Council was given \$50,000 of unrestricted funds by the County Executive for programs. After soliciting feedback from all committee members on how to use this funding, it was determined that it would be used for the “OAR” (operating after revocation) program design. Funding for this program would run approximately \$40,000. The program will assist individuals in obtaining a valid drivers license. OAR cases tend to be a cyclical process. Individuals get cited. They don’t pay the fines because they don’t have a job or they don’t have a job because they have no valid drivers license to get there. They also tend to miss court dates because they don’t have a ride and cannot drive. Once they fail to appear they end up in jail. The average OAR case has 5 court events and 14 additional activities that require court staff resources. The program does not focus on those individuals who lose their licenses because of alcohol and drug issues or other serious offenses. They have been meeting with the DOT to collaborate with them to implement the program as they have all information on drivers licenses.

The DOT is currently working with Milwaukee County on a different program. As a result of the state statute that made first time OAR's a criminal offense rather than a municipal offense, the Clerk of Courts office has had an additional 10,000 pieces of paper to work with. Judge Foster explained what she calls the "Fish or Cut Bait" aspect which is the court telling the client what they have to do to get their license back, give them a reasonable time period and setting the court for that time rather than repeat court dates where client is telling Judge they are working on it. This makes for more efficient use of staff and court time. The program would also implement a reminder call for court dates. The DOT would provide us with information regarding all outstanding judgments for each client. We will partner with WCS to perform this service and since they are already providing the pre-screening services we won't need to do another RFP.

In answer to Esler's question regarding those with OAR's never having driver's licenses which is problematic in Milwaukee, that is not something we see here. In Milwaukee there is a 6-month wait to take the road test. Most of our clientele have had a license but have lost it as a result of another offense.

The general public has to be behind the idea of a collaborating council. Judge states that you need to take all available opportunities to get the point across. One of the strategic plan issues for the council is restorative justice. Because of the work that Waukesha County and Racine County have done with their collaborating councils, Judge Foster and Chief Judge Ptacek in Racine have been asked to give a presentation to all criminal judges in the state.

The Judge and Shelly concluded their presentation by finishing up the review of the monthly activity report.

### **Mental Health Advisory Committee Needs Presentation**

Linda Cole, Chair of the Mental Health Advisory Committee, thanked the Board and Committee for their support in last year's budget expansion of the Clubhouse. Linda passed out copies of the Unmet Needs Committee Recommendations for the 2005 budget.

The Advisory Committee has two needs on their list. The first being the continued support of the level of services presently being provided to Waukesha County residents including expansion of the clubhouse and access to new psycho pharmaceuticals. The second unmet need was a request to increase services to the SED (seriously emotionally disturbed) population through wrap-around services and flexible funding for summer and weekend respite programming. The estimated cost of this need is \$31,000. We presently serve approximately 200 children in SED programs. This \$31,000 would include the cost of summer camps at St. Aemilian Lakeside or Rogers Memorial and also for weekend times where child can be placed in a protected setting to give the family some respite. This program could effectively prevent the \$45,000 - \$55,000 a year for residential treatment at CCI's and in some cases cost up to \$7,000 per month.

Linda also presented two ideas they would like to develop. One is to put a committee together to develop programming for young adults transitioning from children's services to adult services. This programming would be tailor made to each individual as a preventative measure. The Advisory Committee would like to take the next year to study this and then present a plan next year. The other idea is a combined effort of the Children and Family Advisory Committee and the Mental Health Advisory Committee. This is to develop a review process to determine the extent of programming and support needed for families whose parents have a mental illness. The goal is to decrease the potential for out of home placement and to educate both the children and parents and strengthen the family and the families support network.

### **Pre-Service Training for Foster Parents**

Presented by Don Daniels, Shari Rather and Jeannie Szarek. A handout on foster care including the goals of the pre-service training and the curriculum were passed out to all in attendance. There has been a recognition for a long time that foster parenting requires training. The State had been talking about making this a requirement, but Waukesha County decided to go ahead with this idea. This training which is called PACE (Partners in Alternate Care Education) is required for not only all new foster parents but the veterans as well. We have been receiving very positive feedback about the training sessions. We are currently contracting with Walworth County to provide training for their foster parents and are presently collaborating with Washington and Ozaukee Counties to make this training available in their counties as well. This training in other counties also provides networking that can be shared among counties. For example, we have been paying \$10,000 a month for a deaf child with mental health issues residing in a residential treatment center in Illinois and we found a foster home in Walworth County with deaf parents and he may be able to continue in the home as an adult foster home. We provide four training sessions per year – each one is approximately 36 hours spanning a period of approximately 6 days. These sessions are offered on weekdays as well as Saturdays. There is no remuneration for the classes, but we do provide childcare, breakfast and lunch, or snacks.

A foster parent is paid \$302 per month for younger children and this amount increases based on the child's age. The highest is \$393 per month and that is for children 15 through 17. We can increase this amount if a child has special needs. A \$150.00 one-time allowance for clothes is given.

What has been helpful in that when some people attend the training, they realize this is not for them. Foster parents are an integral part of the child welfare team and work with the birth parents. Every potential foster parent has to provide 5 references which are thoroughly checked. An individual assessment is done in the home and areas are covered to determine what age range of children they are comfortable with and making sure the surroundings are safe. A support system has been established for foster parents and birth parents.

### **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Haukohl made a motion seconded by Farrell to adjourn the meeting of the Health & Human Services Board. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Silva made a motion seconded by Seitz to adjourn the meeting of the Health & Human Service Committee. Motion carried.

Recorded by Kathy Leach.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Silva  
Secretary for the Committee